

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7332

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, UNGA, ECOSOC

SUBJ: INTERSESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON TRANSNATIONAL  
CORPORATIONS (TNCS)

1. SECOND MEETING OF SPECIAL INTERSESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON TNCS (SIC) INCLUDED 12 GENERALLY BRIEF, BUSINESSLIKE, INTERVENTIONS FROM NEARLY EQUAL MIXTURE OF DCS AND LDCS. INTERVENTIONS DEVOTED LARGELY TO EXPRESSING DELEGATIONS' VIEWS ON COMPOSITION AND TERMS OF REFERENCE OF PROPOSED MNCS COMMISSION AND MODALITIES OF OPERATION OF SECRETARIAT INFORMATION AND RESEARCH CENTER. JAOR EXCEPTION TO THIS PATTERN WAS POLEMIC ATTACK ON ALLEGED MISDEEDS OF TNCS BY GDR DELEGATE, WHO WENT SO FAR AS TO PROPOSE THAT COMMISSION SHOULD ONLY CONSIDER NEGATIVE ASPECTS OF TNCS.

2. NEARLY UNANIMOUS CONSENSUS OF DELEGATES SPEAKING TODAY WAS THAT COMMISSION SHOULD BE ADVISORY BODY TO ECOSOC COMPOSED OF GOVERNMENTAL REPRESENTATIVES, WHO NEVERTHELESS SHOULD BE QUALIFIED IN THE FIELD. THERE WAS, HOWEVER, WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER POSSIBLE MEANS OF PERMITTING EXPERTS FROM NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS, INCLUDING LABOR, BUSINESS, CONSUMER REPRESENTATIVES AND ACADEMIA

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TO PARTICIPATE ON A REGULAR BASIS ON COMMISSION'S WORK.

IN THIS REGARD, CONSIDERABLE SUPPORT WAS EXPRESSED FOR YUGOSLAV IDEA, WHICH WE EXPECT TO BE FORMALIZED IN DRAFT REPORTEDLY BEING WORKED OUT BY THEM AND SMALL GROUP OTHERS G-77 FOR ONE OR MORE PANELS OF INDEPENDENT EXPERTS TO BE SELECTED BY SYG OR COMMISSION AFTER CONSULTATIONS WITH GOVERNMENTS.

3. MOST DELEGATES SPEAKING GENERALLY AGREED WITH PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR COMMISSION; ALTHOUGH SEVERAL, INCLUDING JAPAN, NETHERLANDS AND COLOMBIA INDICATED THEIR BELIEF THAT TO BEGIN WORK ON A BINDING GENERAL INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT ON TNCS WAS PREMATURE AND UNREALISTIC.

4. THERE WAS LITTLE QUARREL WITH PROPOSED MODALITIES FOR INFORMATION AND RESEARCH CENTER, AND SEVERAL LDC DELEGATES URGED THAT IT BEGIN TO FUNCTION EARLY NEXT YEAR.

5. RELATIVELY LITTLE WAS SAID ON AGENDA ITEM ON SETTING PRIORITIES FOR WORK PROGRAM ON TNCS WITH SEVERAL DELEGATIONS EXPRESSING VIEW THAT THIS WAS PREMATURE. ARGENTINA AND GDR DELEGATES, HOWEVER, SPECIFICALLY RELATED ECOSOC WORK TO THE PROGRAM OF ACTION ADOPTED BY THE VI SPECIAL UNGA SESSION. UNDERSTAND, HOWEVER, THAT G-77 RES IS LIKELY TO DEAL WITH PRIORITIES QUESTION IN CONSIDERABLE DETAIL.

6. THUS FAR ONLY CANADIANS HAVE SUBMITTED DRAFT RESOLUTION ON ESTABLISHING UN MACHINERY ON TNCS. US DEL BELIEVES THAT EITHER CANADIAN DRAFT OR A WEST GERMAN DRAFT, WHICH IS CURRENTLY BEING CIRCULATED INFORMALLY, WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE BASIS FROM WHICH TO WORK. APART FROM EXPECTED G-77 DRAFT RES, WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT IF ANY OTHER DELEGATIONS PLAN TO SUBMIT DRAFTS BEFORE NOON WEDNESDAY DEADLINE.

7. U.S. DEL PLANS TO MAKE LOW-KEY INTERVENTION AT WEDNESDAY SESSION.  
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